



CHARLES SMITH  
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

**Date:** August 22, 2017

**Texas Works Bulletin 17-10**  
**MEPD Bulletin 17-8**

**To:** Eligibility Services – Regional Directors  
Program Managers  
Eligibility Services Supervisors  
Regional Attorneys  
Hearings Officers

**From:** Regina Carter, Director  
Policy Strategy, Analysis, and Development  
State Office 2115

**Subject: In-Home and Family Support Program**

Bulletins are sent to supervisors and other regional managers. Supervisors must share this information with all eligibility staff. Please ensure that copies are provided to staff that do not have access to e-mail. If you have any questions regarding the policy information in this bulletin, follow regional procedures.

Active bulletins are posted on the following websites:

- Texas Works Handbook (TWH) at <http://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/texas-works-handbook/texas-works-bulletins>;
- Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities Handbook (MEPD) at <http://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/medicaid-elderly-and-people-disabilities-handbook/mepd-policy-bulletins>.

## Background

The In-Home and Family Support Program (IH/FSP) provides cash payments to individuals with physical disabilities and their families to enable them to live in the community. The payments are available to purchase services, equipment, home modifications, or other items related to the individual's disability.

The In-Home and Family Support Program will end **August 31, 2017** as funding was not authorized this legislative session.

## Current Policy and Process

*TW Medicaid*

In-Home and Family Support payments are exempt (TWH A-1324.6).

### *MEPD*

In-Home and Family Support payments are cash provided by a government social services program and are not considered income (MEPDH E-1720).

### *SNAP and TANF*

If a household member receives one IH/FSP payment during the year, the payment is exempt income in the month of receipt and considered a resource in the month after the month of receipt (TWH A-1324.6 and A-1244).

If a household member receives more than one payment:

- a deduction is given for any portion of the payment that is a reimbursement for expenses not included in the standard of need or for medical needs that are not paid by Medicaid; and
  - the remaining funds are unearned income in the month of receipt or prorated over the period the income is intended to cover (TWH A-1356); and
  - the payment is not counted as a resource for any period it is considered as income (TWH A-1243).

### **New Policy**

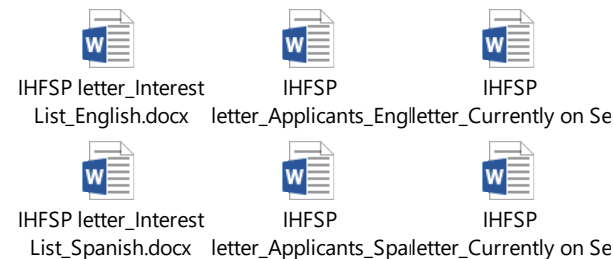
Individuals will not receive payments from the In-Home and Family Support Program after August 31, 2017.

### *SNAP*

Individuals may be eligible for medical deductions previously reimbursed by the IH/FSP (TWH A-1428.4 Change in Medical Expenses during Certification).

### **Communications**

The following information letters were shared by Health and Human Services Commission with applicants and recipients of the In-Home and Family Support Program.



### **Automation**

Automation changes are not planned at this time.

**Effective Date**

The policy is effective September 1, 2017.

**Handbook**

MEPD Handbook updates are scheduled for March 2018.

TWH updates are scheduled for January 2018.

**Training**

Training is not required.